

New Combinations in *Lychnis* (Caryophyllaceae) from Africa

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ABSTRACT. New combinations in *Lychnis* L. (Caryophyllaceae) are proposed for the names of seven taxa occurring in the East and West African mountains. The taxa have previously been placed in *Uebelinia* Hochstetter, but recent molecular studies placed the group within *Lychnis*. The new combinations are: *L. crassifolia* (T. C. E. Fries) M. Popp, *L. kigesiensis* (R. D. Good) M. Popp, *L. kigesiensis* subsp. *ragazziana* (S. Ousted) M. Popp, *L. kiwuensis* (T. C. E. Fries) M. Popp, *L. kiwuensis* subsp. *erlangeriana* (S. Ousted) M. Popp, *L. rotundifolia* (Oliver) M. Popp, and *L. scottii* (Turrill) M. Popp.

Key words: Afro-alpine, Afro-montane, Caryophyllaceae, East Africa, *Lychnis*, *Uebelinia*, West Africa.

The latest revision of the Afro-montane and Afro-alpine genus *Uebelinia* Hochstetter was done by Ousted in 1985. In the revision Ousted synonymized West African *U. hispida* Pax and *U. nigerica* Turill, and East African *U. spathulifolia* Hochstetter ex T. C. E. Fries with *U. abyssinica* Hochstetter, erected *U. kigesiensis* R. D. Good subsp. *ragazziana* S. Ousted, and suggested the new combination *U. kiwuensis* T. C. E. Fries subsp. *erlangeriana* (Engler) S. Ousted. Furthermore, he considered *Agrostemma* L. to be the closest relative to *Uebelinia*. However, several phylogenies inferred from chloroplast DNA, nuclear ribosomal DNA, and low-copy nuclear DNA have shown that *Uebelinia* is closely related to the Moroccan endemic *Lychnis lagrangei* (Cosson) Cosson and to the Eurasian *L. flos-cuculi* L. (Oxelman & Lidén, 1995; Oxelman et al., 1997; Popp & Oxelman, 2004; Popp et al., in prep.). In a revision of the tribe Sileneae, Oxelman et al. (2000) included *Uebelinia* in *Lychnis*. A new combination for the type of the genus, *U. abyssinica* Hochstetter, was included in the publication, but new combinations for the names of the remaining species were omitted. Here I propose new combinations for the names of seven taxa, including five species and two non-autonomous subspecies.

1. *Lychnis crassifolia* (T. C. E. Fries) M. Popp, comb. nov. Basionym: *Uebelinia crassifolia* T. C.

E. Fries, Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. 19: 91. 1923. TYPE: Kenya. Rift Valley/Central Province: Aberdare Mtns., R. E. & T. C. E. Fries 2266 (holotype, UPS; isotypes, B, K, S not seen).

2. *Lychnis kigesiensis* (R. D. Good) M. Popp, comb. nov. Basionym: *Uebelinia kigesiensis* R. D. Good, J. Bot. 62: 332. 1924. TYPE: Uganda. Western Province, Kigezi District: Behungi, E. & C. Godman 237 (holotype, BM).

3. *Lychnis kigesiensis* subsp. ***ragazziana*** (S. Ousted) M. Popp, comb. nov. Basionym: *Uebelinia kigesiensis* R. D. Good subsp. *ragazziana* S. Ousted, Bull. Jard. Bot. Belg. 55: 446. 1985. TYPE: Ethiopia. Shoa Province: Entotto, 2 Oct. 1886, V. Ragazzi s.n. (holotype, FT; isotype, FT).

4. *Lychnis kiwuensis* (T. C. E. Fries) M. Popp, comb. nov. Basionym: *Uebelinia kiwuensis* T. C. E. Fries, Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. 19: 90. 1923. TYPE: Rwanda. Pass betw. Sabinyo & Kahinga, H. Humbert 8647 (neotype, designated by S. Ousted, 1985: 452, B; isotypes, BR, G, P not seen).

5. *Lychnis kiwuensis* subsp. ***erlangeriana*** (S. Ousted) M. Popp, comb. nov. Basionym: *Uebelinia rotundifolia* Oliver var. *erlangeriana* Engler, Bot. Jahrb. 48: 381. 1912. *Uebelinia erlangeriana* (Engler) T. C. E. Fries, Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. 19: 89. 1923. *Uebelinia kiwuensis* T. C. E. Fries subsp. *erlangeriana* (Engler) S. Ousted, Bull. Jard. Bot. Belg. 55: 457. 1985. TYPE: Ethiopia. NE of Agere Selam, I. Friis, M. G. Gilbert, F. Rasmussen & K. Vollesen 757 (neotype, designated by S. Ousted, 1985: 457, BR not seen; isotype, C).

6. *Lychnis rotundifolia* (Oliver) M. Popp, comb. nov. Basionym: *Uebelinia rotundifolia* Oliver, J. Linn. Soc., Bot. 21: 397. 1885. TYPE: Tanzania. Northern Province, Moshi Rural District, Mt. Kilimanjaro, Sep. 1884, S. Thomson s.n. (holotype, K).

7. *Lychnis scottii* (Turrill) M. Popp, comb. nov. Basionym: *Uebelinia scottii* Turrill, Kew Bull. 1954: 260. 1955. TYPE: Ethiopia. Gamo-Gofa Province: Gughé Highlands, Mt. Tola, H. Scott 156 (holotype, K).

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